

science. I am very thankful for these future leaders and ask that you please join me in congratulating them on their wonderful achievements.

RECOGNIZING JULIUS HARPER
DAVIS

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, recently, Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi dedicated Harper Davis Field to a man who coached there for 25 years, and who has built a lifetime legacy of service to sport and his fellow man across the state. Coach Harper Davis, affectionately called "Hippo" by friends and teammates, called the rededication of Millsaps' Alumni Field to him the "greatest honor of my life." And while leading the Millsaps Majors he built a record of 138-79-4 including an undefeated season in 1980, his life has much more to honor.

At age 17, Harper Davis left his Delta home in Clarksdale, Mississippi and enlisted in the US Marines Air Corps as a pilot to serve his Nation in World War II. After the War was over, he was met at Texas Grand Prairie Air Station by Mississippi State University assistant coach Phil Dickens who had the Bulldogs' playbook in hand. Two days later they arrived in Starkville for two practices before his first game where Davis scored two touchdowns as MSU defeated Auburn 20-0. Two days of study and two days of practice were followed by two touchdowns. In addition, during those two days, Harper Davis met Camille, his future wife. He would go on to be named to the All-SEC team while at State where he also ran on the school's track team. He was co-captain of the football team, voted Best Athlete, President of the "M" Club and named "Mr. Mississippi State University." Additionally he was a member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity, Omicron Delta Kappa, Blue Key and the Colonels Club.

He graduated from Mississippi State with a bachelor of science degree in business finance and mathematics in 1948, in 1962 earned a master's degree in education administration.

After leaving Mississippi State University, Harper Davis was a first-round draft choice of both the Chicago Bears of the National Football League and the Los Angeles Dons of the All-American League. Harper Davis played one year with the Dons before the league folded and then went on to play with the Bears as well as the Green Bay Packers. Many considered him the fastest man in the NFL.

Over the years, Harper Davis has coached the backfield at his alma mater as well as head coach at West Point High School, and Columbus High School before arriving at Millsaps College. He has been inducted into the Mississippi State Sports Hall of Fame and the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame and was named Mississippi Sportsman of the Year in 1976. He has been honored nationally for his contributions to the sport of football and his work with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Harper Davis is a member of Christ United Methodist Church and with his now departed wife, the former Camille Hogan of Starkville,

has three sons, Michael, Andrew and Patrick with four grandchildren, Morgan, Drew, Paul and Brad.

Mr. Speaker, Harper Davis has now been coaching football for over 50 years and he continues today at Jackson Academy, where four of my sons attend. His gentle firmness and wise lessons continue to build young men in Mississippi. I am glad to recognize him today and honor a lifetime of service.

EXCERPTS FROM CONGRESSIONAL
BRIEFING BY IRAN HUMAN
RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY CAU-
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HON. TOM G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, last month, leaders and representatives of 65 Iraqi political parties and groups unveiled a petition signed by 2.8 million Iraqis, sharply criticizing neighboring Iran's interference in Iraq and warning of the specter of "Islamic fundamentalism's stealthy domination" of their country. Iraqi signatories included ethnic Arabs, Kurds, and Turkmen, from different religious backgrounds, including Sunni Muslims, Shiite Muslims, Christians, and people of other faiths.

The petition offered strong support to the main Iranian opposition group, the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI). The Iraqi statement said that the PMOI was fighting a "legitimate struggle against an unjust dictatorship", adding Iran's meddling was the biggest cause of instability in present-day Iraq. They also said the PMOI should be recognized in Iraq as "a legitimate political movement" and the rights of its members, under Iraqi and international law, fully respected. A Congressional Briefing was convened by Iran Human Rights and Democracy Caucus on May 10, 2005 to discuss these developments. I ask that the following excerpts of the witnesses' speeches, as follows, be entered into the RECORD. Furthermore, I ask that it be noted that the remarks of those witnesses connected to the US military are not to be attributed to the U.S. Department of Defense, but taken as personal observations offered by each witness.

Dr. Abdullah Rasheed Al-Jabouri, Former Governor of the Iraqi Province of Diyala: "I must emphasize that among the 2.8 million Iraqis who signed the petition of support, there are many Kurds, Turkomans, Shiites and Christians. Last June, 50,000 Iraqis attended a major gathering at Ashraf, which I addressed, and in May, 500,000 Iraqis signed a petition calling for the continued presence of the group in Iraq as a legitimate political force. The fact is that by virtue of espousing an anti-fundamentalist Islam, the Mojahedin has emerged as a major bulwark against the rise of Islamic fundamentalism in Iraq, and especially the Iranian meddling. They have developed strong ties with the local people and the many tribes in the province. The sheer presence of the Mojahedin (MEK) was providing security to the region because the people in the province have complete trust in them. It is my hope that as we and the U.S. grapple with the problem of insurgency in Iraq, the United States would realize that the Mojahedin are friend of the

Iraqi people and a source stability and calm in Iraq and move to remove them from the terrorist list, which would in turn lead to the removal of the restrictions placed on them."

Lt. Colonel Thomas Cantwell: "When I moved up into northern Diyala province [in Iraq], the relationship with the Mojahedin with the local community helped me in that regard, I think because most of the local sheiks, understanding as part of the Sunni triangle, weren't exactly trusting of coalition forces but they seemed to have some level of trust with the Mojahedin, and so what I sought to get them to come in to get to speak to them and to understand what their issues were, was their security issues, their infrastructure repair issues, they lack of support issues, and to try and help them understand what our operations were doing and to ensure that they understood why we were under taking our operations. It certainly helped to have that friendly relationship that they had with the Mojahedin because it helped me to break the ice with the local sheiks which I think was important. My mission had several different aspects to it. On the one hand, we had a Geneva Convention responsibility to safeguard the Mojahedin, and this was a real possibility since there was evidence at the camp that the camp had been previously attacked by the Iranian government."

Captain Vivian Gembara: "As a soldier and a lawyer I believe it's time to change their (MEK) classification as a terrorist organization. Two years ago we could say clearly or argue that it was in all of our best interest to maintain this label, even despite Special Forces recommendations out of natural weariness. Now two years have passed and I think it's crucial that we acknowledge that the situation has changed, and we need to reassess. The potential benefits of working together definitely overshadow previous concerns or hesitations that we had. Next of course is identifying your allies, and over two years have passed now since I met with the MEK but my question is still the same and hasn't changed at all. It's basically why we can't take maximum use of the assets and potentials of this ally here?"

Dr. Kenneth Katzman: "The broader regional effects of the pro-Iranian tilt of the new Iraqi government are hard to discern. It is likely that the new Iraqi government might support Iran against international criticism of Iran's growing nuclear program. Iraq might move closer to Iranian positions on the Arab-Israeli peace process. It is also likely that the Shiite-dominated new government of Iraq will support other Shiite movements in the region, such as in Bahrain, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. Some commentators say Iraq's new leaders are likely to remain wary of Iran exercising substantial influence in Iraq. They note that most Iraqi Shiites generally stayed loyal to the Sunni-dominated Iraqi regime during the Iran-Iraq war. Most Iraqi Shiites appear not to want a cleric-run Islamic regime."

IN MEMORY OF MAJOR EDDIE
WHITEHEAD

HON. J. D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on May 27, 2005 a courageous and distinguished Marine